

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-49 are pending in this application and are presented for examination.

The Examiner has indicated that restriction to one of the inventions set forth in Groups 1, 2 or 3 is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121 (*see*, Office Action at page 2). In response, Applicants elect with *traverse*, Group 1, drawn to a peptide/pharmaceutical. Claims readable thereon include claims 1-23, and 32-33.

The Examiner has also indicated that election of a single disclosed species is required (*see*, Office Action at page 3). In response, Applicants elect, with *traverse*, the peptide INSL<sup>3</sup> (SEQ ID No: 7) of claim 3, the A-chain of relaxin 1 and the reporter being a fluorescent reporter.

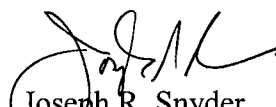
Applicants have made the election requirements with *traverse*. According to the MPEP, where claims can be examined together without undue burden, the Examiner must examine the claims on the merits even though they are directed to independent and distinct inventions. See, the MPEP at § 803.01. In establishing that an "undue burden" would exist for co-examination of claims, the Examiner must show that examination of the claims would involve substantially different prior art searches, making the co-examination burdensome. Applicants believe that no undue burden exists in the present case.

Appl. No. 10/561,304  
Amdt. dated February 13, 2008  
Reply to Office Action of September 14, 2007

PATENT

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request early action on the merits. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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